

**BEFORE THE
ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION**

COMMONWEALTH EDISON COMPANY)	
)	
Verified Petition to Determine the Applicability of)	
Section 16-125(e) Liability to Events Caused By the)	ICC Docket No. 11-0588
Summer 2011 Storm Systems)	

**DIRECT TESTIMONY AND EXHIBITS
OF
FRED VOGT, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS,
CITY OF ROLLING MEADOWS**

**ON BEHALF OF
THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

May 30, 2012

AG EXHIBIT 7.0

1 **Q. Please state your name and address.**

2 A. My name is Fred Vogt and my business address is 3900 Berdnick Street, Rolling
3 Meadows, IL 60008.

4 **Q. What is your occupation?**

5 A. I am the Director of Public Works for the City of Rolling Meadows. I have held that
6 position for 15 years.

7 **Q. What is the purpose of your testimony?**

8 A. I would like reply to ComEd's Rebuttal Testimony regarding its tree trimming activities.

9 **Q. In ComEd Ex. 8.0 lines 66-67, Mr. Chesley states that "ComEd clears vegetation**
10 **from each distribution circuit (34kV and below) on a four-year cycle". What has**
11 **been Rolling Meadow's experience with ComEd's vegetation clearing?**

12 A. We regularly experience conflicting information from ComEd staff members as to *what*
13 level of distribution lines are subject to trimming, within the four-year trimming cycle or
14 otherwise. Homeowners have also let us know that they have received conflicting
15 information from ComEd regarding trimming responsibilities. There is much
16 inconsistency in the tree and brush trimming performed by ComEd. In some locations,
17 we are told by ComEd that it will only trim around the primary power lines and in other
18 areas, ComEd trims around both primary and secondary lines, and it is very unclear what
19 ComEd's responsibilities are regarding trimming.

20 **Q. In ComEd Ex. 8.0, page 7, Mr. Chesley states that "Municipalities are provided**
21 **with a letter describing our planned vegetation management activities, as well as a**
22 **map or list of common addresses that will be affected by these activities." Has this**
23 **been your experience?**

24 A. No. While ComEd's External Affairs Manager does sometimes notify us in general terms
25 of winter tree trimming efforts and areas, the information provided is by no means as
26 thorough as implied by Mr. Chesley. Often, Rolling Meadows will not receive letters or
27 maps from ComEd to identify planned vegetative management activities. We would like
28 to receive such information so that we can maintain a log book for record keeping, notify
29 the public where necessary (by use of our web site, newsletter, etc.).

30 **Q. Is there anything else you would like to add?**

31 A. Yes. I can tell you of a personal experience, in June 2011, when a ComEd sub-contractor
32 was trimming tree limbs in my rear yard. I pointed out to the ComEd sub-contractors that
33 there is a large willow tree with limbs in close proximity to the primary and secondary
34 power lines, a few lots north of my property, and that a year earlier, this tree had a limb
35 take out the power line. The sub-contractor took no action, and a few weeks later on July
36 11, 2011, that willow tree had a large limb take out the power lines and as a result, we
37 were without power for four days.